

AUG 04 1988

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES RECOMMENDATION TO CHANGE FORMAT AND DISTRIBUTION OF CPC NEWS

### FORMAT CHANGES

With this Summer edition of the CPC NEWS, this Conference publication will cease to publish in its current format and there will be changes in its distribution plan. Acting on the recommendation of the Information and Interpretation Committee, the Conference Board of Directors has approved a plan which will make the CPC NEWS a Conference edition into the UC NEWS, the national UCC publication which is published ten times a year. The CPC NEWS edition will be published as the first two pages of the UC NEWS six times a year. Known as a "wrap-around" edition, the CPC NEWS will occupy two of the four "wrap-around" pages. The other two pages will be occupied by the Washington-North Idaho Conference edition.

### DISTRIBUTION PLAN TO CHANGE

Included in the recommended action is a change in the distribution plan. No longer will the CPC NEWS be mailed in bulk to local churches for distribution to the some 6,000 CPC households. The new CPC NEWS edition will be provided free to a smaller list of local church members by direct mail. Local churches will be asked to identify those persons. Currently there are already 850 CPC members receiving copies of the UC NEWS. An additional 700 persons will be added in this new arrangement. All members of CPC can receive the UC NEWS with the CPC "wrap-around" through individual subscription (\$8 per year), small group subscription (\$5 per year) or 100% church subscription (\$2.85 per year).

### SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY DISTRIBUTION IN SEPTEMBER

The Information and Interpretation Committee has arranged for all CPC households to receive through their local church a copy of the September CPC/UC NEWS to see what the new publication will look like. Included in that edition will be a subscription form for those who would like to receive on-going issues.

### WHY THE CHANGE?

There are a number of reasons for the change in format. Anticipating the time when the current publishing arrangements will no longer be possible, the I&I Committee recognizes the economic benefits from associating with the UC NEWS publishing house. Aware of the difficulty many older members have in reading the current CPC NEWS, the Committee foresees the benefits of the larger print available in the new format. Recognizing the need for CPC members to be more in touch with the wider life of the UCC, the Committee sees the benefits in CPC members receiving the UC NEWS and the added benefit of growing closer to the Washington-North Idaho Conference through the sharing of the wrap-around.

In addition to the CPC/UC NEWS, the Information and Interpretation Committee will be communicating with local churches through two additional resources: MISSION MOMENTS which is already available to churches and a new publication, CPC HIGHLIGHTS, which will contain local church news as well as Conference activities, events and issues.

The Information and Interpretation Committee and the Conference Board of Directors will review and evaluate these new forms of communication at the end of the 1989.

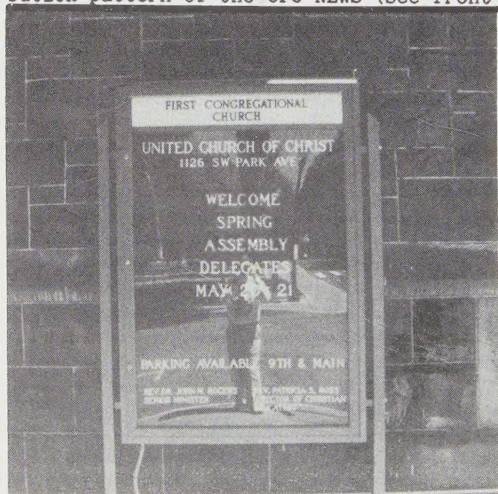


ASSEMBLY DELEGATES CALL SEVETSON TO ANOTHER TERM AS MINISTER;  
CELEBRATE ECUMENICAL VISION; GIVE FINAL APPROVAL TO CAPITAL CAMPAIGN;  
APPROVE 1989 BUDGET; RESPOND TO A NUMBER OF CURRENT SOCIAL ISSUES

As has almost become the custom, when delegates and visitors gathered for the Spring Assembly at First Congregational Church, Portland, the sun shone brightly and the temperature soared into the high 80s. The warm temperature did not prevent the assembly delegates from completing a significant agenda. The Reverend Don Sevetsen was re-elected to a third four year term as Conference Minister. Kit Purdom, 1st Congregational Church, Salem, was elected Moderator while her pastor, The Reverend Ed Henderlite was elected Vice-Moderator. Michael Wells, Meridian UCC, and Linda Clark, Forest Grove UCC, were re-elected Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

The Assembly theme, ECUMENISM...ALL GOD'S PEOPLE, introduced in an opening address given by Sevetsen, was developed in addresses by Rabbi Joshua Stampfer of Portland's Congregation Neveh Shalom and Father Alfred Baumann from Mount Angel Abbey. In a stirring Friday evening joint service with the Disciples of Christ Assembly, a service celebrating the UCC/Disciples Partnership, Methodist Bishop Calvin McConnell made a plea for greater ecumenical activity.

Among the actions taken in the business sessions, delegates, acting on the findings of the Camp Adams Capital Campaign Committee, agreed that there is support for such a campaign in the local churches and voted unanimously to move ahead with the campaign. In another financial action the delegates approved a \$339,560 budget for 1989 which calls for a 5% increase in local church OCWM support. Acting on a number of church and society issues, delegates approved a resolution condemning production of and research on chemical and biological weapons, affirmed opposition to the death penalty, called upon CPC churches and members to "seriously consider abstinence from the purchase of products produced or marketed by the Shell Group of Companies..." Resolutions to adopt the General Synod priorities, Youth and Young Adult Ministries and The Homeless Poor were adopted. Considerable discussion centered on the announcement that the Conference Information and Interpretation Committee and Board of Directors had voted to change the format and distribution pattern of the CPC NEWS (see front page story).

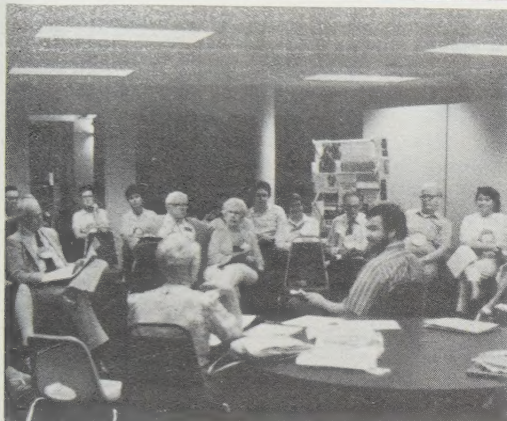


Portland First's historic and beautifully refurbished building provided the setting for the 1988 Assembly.



The Reverend Don Sevetsen addresses the Assembly following his re-election to a third term as Conference Minister.





Hearings on resolutions, displays and an ecumenical mission fair caught the attention of Assembly delegates.

### *The Local Scene*

Beavercreek UCC has called Joy Haertig to become their pastor. A 1987 graduate of Pacific School of Religion, Ms. Haertig will begin her ministry at Beavercreek on September 1.

Judith McQuiston has been called to serve the Challis Community Church and has been on the scene since May 29. Ms. McQuiston has returned to serve the church she also interned in.

Coming to Central Pacific to serve in intern positions are: Andrea Stoeckel - United Theological Seminary - will spend the Summer at Enterprise Community Church; Peter Cook, a member of Meridian UCC and a student at PSR will spend the Summer with members of the Ione and Condon congregations.

Arriving later in the Summer will be Genet Soule, an Eden Seminary student, who will spend the year at First Congregational Church, Boise.

While the Hillsdale Community Church youth and youth advisor, Carolyn Weir, are traveling to Mexico for a work project this Summer, their pastor, Jack Takayanagi, will be traveling to Scotland where he will be studying at St. Andrews.



Beautiful Summer weather made possible a welcome picnic lunch on Portland's Park Blocks.

Many in the Conference will remember The Reverend Wim Meyer, who served on Conference staff in the area of church development in the late 60s. Wim has retired and with his wife, Elizabeth, have bought a house in Tulare, California. Old friends who would like to write Wim can do so at 457 South H Street, Tulare, CA 93274.

Churches celebrating anniversaries in May and June include Lake Oswego UCC, 100 years on May 15 and Parkrose Community UCC, 75 years on June 13. First Congregational Church, Pocatello will celebrate their centennial with a big week-end on July 8, 9, 10.

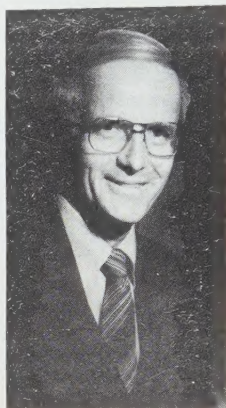
St. John's UCC in Tillamook has a good Gestetner mimeo for sale. Make them an offer. Money from the sale will go to support the work of their senior high fellowship.

Vern and Connie Madison, members of First Congregational Church, Salem, both retired this year. This Summer they will embark on a 5 or 6 year trip around the world in their 35 foot steel sailboat. They will be visiting (and maybe doing some volunteer work) at UCC mission stations along the way. The Mission and Outreach Committee has invited them to take Conference greetings to those stations and to report back word of their work and special needs through letters, video tapes and talks while on home visits.



## The Last Word

Serendipity is "the gift of finding valuable or agreeable things not sought for". Because Dr. Egbert Oliver, former member of Salem First and Beaverton Bethel, present member of Portland First, is blessed with serendipity, our knowledge of our history has been greatly enriched.



While at work on a history of Columbia County, Oregon, Dr. Oliver got interested in the origins of churches, and made inquiry about the existence of records of correspondence between Dr. Thomas Condon, founding pastor of the church at St. Helens, and the American Home Missionary Association, predecessor to our United Church Board for Homeland Ministries. His search led him to the archives of the Board, which are now located with the Amistad Collection at Tulane University in New Orleans. There he found "valuable and agreeable things" - far more than he had hoped for, an abundance of letters between Condon, other early missionaries, and the Board.

As a result of this serendipity, Dr. Oliver has now published books about Thomas Condon, about Obed Dickinson (founding pastor of First Congregational of Salem), and "Saints and Sinners", a history of the first twenty-five years of First Congregational of Portland. Did you know that First Church, Salem, received three black people into membership on the day before Abraham Lincoln's inauguration, and was promptly dubbed the "Nigger Church" by the local newspaper? That an early pastor of Portland First (now the 'cornerstone' of the Center for the Performing Arts) was opposed to its members attending a performance of "Hamlet"? Or that Thomas Condon, pastor, professor, and scientist, initial theorist of the geology of the Cascade Range, was, in 1865, one of the first northwesterners to speak to the relation between faith and science? It is a rich history, and a relevant one.

If you would like to purchase one or more of Dr. Oliver's books, our office will be happy to arrange it. They are: Saints and Sinners (\$10); Obed Dickinson's War Against Sin in Salem (\$10); and Thomas Condon of Oregon (\$5). His discovery, and his ensuing research and writing, has led us to a valuable legacy. I urge your acquaintance with it.

Donald J. Severson

## CONFERENCE RECEIVES BEQUEST

Margery S. Thomas, long-time member of the First Congregational Church, Salem, died in December 1987. She put into trust in 1977 properties that will benefit a variety of charities including the Central Pacific Conference, the denominations Black colleges, and the United Church Board for World Ministries. We are grateful that the priorities to which she gave herself during her life are also supported now following her death.



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